CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (b) DESU is facing financial difficulties mainly due to the unremunerative tariff. Revision of tariff becomes due from time to time on account of increase in the cost of inputs for the generation of power, purchase of power from outside agencies and other expenditure. Steps taken to improve the working of DESU and its financial position include intensification of raids against theft/misuse of power, setting up of Bijli Adalats for redressal of the grievances of consumers, establishments of a centralised complaint cell, installation of computer terminals at district offices and augmentation of the transmission and distribution system, etc. Working of DESU is also reviewed by the Government from time to time with a view to improve its overall performance.

Need to promote Non-Conventional Energy sources in the country

183. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the PRIME MINISTER has stressed upon the need to promote non-conventional energy sources during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, what are the details of the Non-Conventional Energy Sources programmes likely to be implemented during the next one year; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to boost the non-conventional energy sources in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The programmes in the field of non-conventional energy sources are likely to be taken up during the next one year for meeting rural energy needs and supplementing energy generation through use and application of biomass energy, biogas, urjagram, solar thermal, solar photovoltaic, wind energy, mini-micro hydro source, alternate fuel for surface transportation, cogeneration, human and animal energy etc. The financial allocations for various programmes during 1992-93, are in the process of finalisation.

(c) The programmes for demonstration and extension are implemented through nodal agencies established by the various State Governments. In addition, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources supports Research and Development programmes in the area of New and Renewable Sources of Energy. Various types of financial assistance, promotional incentives and fiscal concessions are being provided by the Government for harnessing and wide spread utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy in the country.

Reduction in losses to UPSEB

184. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Uttar Pradesh had recently given an undertaking to the Central Government and also to the World Bank to reduce the mounting losses of the Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken by the U.P. Government so far in the matter; and

(d) whehter the Central Govt. propose to persuade the State Govt. in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b): Govt. of U.P./UPSEB have submitted an Action Plan for revival of World Bank loan for U.P. Power (Srinagar) Project (6×55 MW). Accroding to this plan, it is proposed to earn 1%, 2% and 3% rate of return by UPSEB during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

(c) Several steps have been taken to effect economy in expenditure, increase revenue and improve the plant load factor. Tariff has been increased w.e.f. 18th January, 1992.

(d) State Governments have been urged from time to time to manage the